

# Polk County News

ESTABLISHED 1883.

A HOME PAPER PRINTED FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY.

WEEKLY

Volume 13

Benton, Tenn., Thursday, June 23, 1921

No. 14

## MEMORIAL FOR DEAD WARRIORS

IMMENSE "VICTORY BUILDING" REALLY IS TO BE ERECTED IN WASHINGTON CITY.

### UNEXPECTED IS TO HAPPEN

Funds for the Proposed \$20,000,000 Structure Already Are Being Raised and Congress Has Provided a Site on the Mall.

By EDWARD B. CLARK.

Washington.—Does the unexpected happen in Washington oftener than it happens elsewhere in these good United States? Sometimes it does, but the chances are that in this city, the capital of the country, there is a greater chance than elsewhere that a merely suggested project more frequently comes into its own, because what might be called the spirit of the capital of the republic enters into the proposal for something worthy to be done.

Two years ago, just after I had returned from field service in France, Rupert Hughes, the novelist, came to me and asked me for sentiment's sake, and for the sake of the news, to write a story concerning the plan for an immense Victory building which it was proposed to erect in Washington in memory of the dead of the American armies.

I wrote the article, told of the heart interest of Mrs. Henry F. Dimock of Washington in the proposed plan, told of the great sum of money which it was proposed to raise, gave something of an outline of the architectural plans for the building itself, but wrote it believing that the plan was too ambitious ever to see accomplishment, even in this city of deeds.

Now it is announced that an immense Victory building, a memorial to the dead of all our wars, is an assured fact, and that the breaking of the ground for the \$20,000,000 structure will be the work of the coming autumn.

Carrying Out Washington's Ideas. Out of virtually baseless stories sometimes good can spring. For the better part of a century there have been intermittent tales printed with every earmark of truthfulness that George Washington left a large sum of money for the establishment of an educational institution in the capital of the republic, and that this money, having never been used, still was in the treasury of the United States, and that it now was proposed to put it to this good use or to that good use in keeping with the spirit of the educational intention of the great giver.

It is perfectly true that Washington did in his will make a provision for the establishment of some kind of an educational institution which was to be located in the capital of the country. The funds set aside were in the form of bonds of some kind or other, but either because the bonds proved to be of little or no value, or because the provision in the will was not clear enough, the small amount of money provided never was available, and never has been available.

Now in a way the great victory memorial building which is to be erected in Washington at a cost of \$20,000,000 will be the result of the provision in George Washington's will for the establishment of an educational institution in the capital of the country. Mrs. Dimock, who by the way is a sister of the late William C. Whitney, secretary of the navy in Grover Cleveland's cabinet, read the Washington will and believed that an institution of the kind which is suggested would be in entire keeping with the desire of the Father of His country. Mrs. Dimock knew there was no money to be secured from the Washington source, but she thought that the spirit was as good as the cash, and so she went ahead with her work, and the word today is that success is to come.

States Supplying Money. Word has come to Washington that one state of the Union has appropriated \$100,000 in its own behalf for the project, and that other states are expected to follow suit. Committees have been formed in all states of the Union for the purpose of raising funds. There already is a considerable sum in the treasury and congress has provided a site for the memorial victory structure on the Mall at Seventh and R streets, between Pennsylvania avenue and the Potomac river.

In this huge structure, architectural plans for which are already drawn, the American Legion and all other patriotic organizations will be given quarters. It is to be a memorial to the dead of all wars, but the building will be made serviceable in a hundred different ways as the meeting place of organizations of a specifically patriotic kind. On the ground floor there will

be rooms set aside for the archives or relics of the Union's great struggles. The structure will commemorate the deeds of the men and women of 1776, as it will those of the men and women of 1917. Taking it all in all, this structure, barring the capitol of the United States, will be the finest building in the city of Washington and, perhaps it is not too much to say, one of the really commanding structures of the country.

Summer in Capital.

Congress is rounding into the mid-summer stretch of its work. It seems a bit curious to speak of the mid-summer season as about to open, but early summer in Washington is like midsummer anywhere else, and so one takes the liberty of departing from the literally seasonal truth.

The senators and representatives do not work shirt-sleeved, although there is not a man in either house who does not wish that he might violate the conventions to the extent of dropping his coat into the waste paper basket. In these hot days of District of Columbia weather. The new members of congress suffer more under the heat than the old members. The veterans are seasoned in more ways than one. They have no illusions about the possibility of getting away early in a tariff bill year, and neither have they illusions concerning the possibility of getting through the summer on an ordinary spring wardrobe. They prepare in advance to dress for the occasion, and in Washington the occasion frequently is red hot.

Some one has said that 110,000,000 Americans are waiting anxious-eyed and eager-eared to find out what the congress of the United States is going to do with the taxation problem. The number of people concerned in this is exactly the number given, but it is not to be taken for granted that babes in arms, boys of the "shining morning face" period of life, or girls of like age and like school occupation, or some millions of the adult indifferent, care anything about taxation legislation; but nevertheless every member of congress knows that his fellow citizens are more interested in this matter today than in anything else which is to come before the lawmakers.

New Idea in Tariff Legislation. Interest in the tariff hides its head in the presence of interest in taxation. Some of the Democrats say that tariff and taxation amount to the same thing, but of course there is the instant Republican denial of this today just as there has been instant Republican denial of it ever since the party was formed.

Part of the Republican majority in the house today is seeking means to put into effect at once the tariff provisions of the new bill as they pass congress. In other words, it is the desire to set the tariff law working piecemeal if a way can be found to do it. This will be something new. The idea is that it takes a long while to pass a complete tariff measure, and that if approval can be secured for certain provisions of it before the whole measure becomes a law, it will be a good thing to put these provisions into immediate operation. However, this may or may not be done, and when one says this absolutely unilluminating thing he has said all he can say on the subject.

Congress is interested in the Grover Cleveland Bergdoll case today as deeply as ever it was. This case has taken a sharp turn recently. Col. Thomas W. Miller, the alien property custodian, who saw high service in France and was given two or three decorations for gallantry, has charge today, in a sense, of the Bergdoll matter, for the colonel has issued a statement as follows:

G. C. Bergdoll's Property Seized. "At the personal direction of the President of the United States, and in accordance with the opinion of the attorney general, I will seize such property belonging to Grover Cleveland Bergdoll as has been reported to the alien property custodian as being his own property, or in which he has any interest whatsoever, whether owned and administered personally by him or through power of attorney given to any member of his family."

The intention of the alien property custodian is to administer and operate property seized from Bergdoll as that of any other enemy's property held by him, until congress shall direct what disposition is to be made of this class of property now in the hands of the custodian.

It has been held consistently by the writer of this from the beginning that some means would be found to get Bergdoll's person and now it seems that one of the means of getting his person is that of getting his property. It is believed that this draft evader whom the commander of the American Legion declared to be "the one Boche that we want" soon will find himself penniless in Germany, and that he may prefer prison here to penury there.

A good business man advertises his business. How about YOU?

## PIRATES BELIEVED TO BE OPERATING N. ATLANTIC

Message Picked Up in Bottle Declared That Ship Had Been Captured by Oil-Burning Craft.

WASHINGTON, June 21.—A world-wide search for the missing crew of the schooner Carroll A. Deering of Bath, Maine, which piled on the North Carolina beach last January with all sails set, but not a living soul aboard, has been started by the state department through American consuls.

The mystery is being investigated by the department of justice and the department of commerce as is also the unexplained disappearance of the American steel freighter Hewitt, out of Sabine Pass, Texas, for Boston. This part of the master of the light-craft disappeared at about the same time that the Deering came ashore.

The summary of the history of the Deering case as sent to consuls by the state department discloses that when the Deering passed Cape Lookout lightship N. C., on January 29, while bound from Rio de Janeiro for Norfolk, a man other than the master reported that the vessel had lost both anchors and asked to be reported to its owners.

Two days later the vessel was found on the beach in what the state department describes as "such condition that there was every suspicion of foul play having occurred."

The department's summary also says that a short time after the

Wales has the largest slate quarries in the world.

The walnut growing industry in California represents an investment of \$80,000,000.

The finest rubber in the world is para, gathered in the Amazon region of South America.

Gas light can be traced back more than 200 years, but it was not until the beginning of the last century that practical lighting was introduced.

The fisheries of Canada are the most important in the world, both from the standpoint of area of the fishing grounds and the abundance and quality of the product.

Several hundred New England jewelers have joined in establishing a watchmakers' school at Medford, Mass. the first institution of its kind in the United States.

John L. Lewis, head of the United Mine workers, is mentioned as a possible opposition candidate to the veteran Samuel Gompers for the presidency of the American Federation of Labor.

A system of concrete docks covering several acres are to be constructed at Hamburg by the International Mercantile Marine for the exclusive use of their vessels flying the American flag.

San Antonio is the name of a new port which has been under construction in Chile for five years and which is expected to become a formidable rival to Valparaiso as a shipping center.

The Knights of Labor in its day one of the most powerful combinations of trade unions in America had its origin in a secret protective union of garment-cutters that was

## CIVIL WAR EXPERIENCES OF I. B. NORMAN

Written By James H. Williamson

The Hampton case began to bob up in my mind and I began to get lonesome and uneasy. After I had been there about three hours I heard my name being called at a big door. They took me before the Provost Marshall. He was the sonest man I ever saw. He said, "Hold up your hands." I did so and he read to me the oath of allegiance. I was then discharged feeling some better than I had been feeling a few hours before.

Knoxville was draped in mourning; flags at half mast. I knew that something had gone wrong, but was afraid to ask what it was. I learned from the talk of others that Abraham Lincoln had been killed. I made my way back home to the Matlock valley where I have lived ever since.

I married Louisa Jackson and we have lived together ever since 1867. In my old age I applied for a pension in 1908. The state Board wrote back that the records showed that I had deserted at Abington, Va., about 1864. I do not remember the exact date. Having been a loyal and true Southerner, having suffered many hardships during the war, having offered my life on the battlefield for my country this seemed hard to bear. To be branded a "deserter" was injustice, to me and my family and friends. I had my war record written and sent to the State Board of Pension examiners. I swore to it and asked them not for a pension but to remove the shame and disgrace some one had tried to fasten to my honorable record. I was surprised sometime later to get a pension voucher.

I am now 78 years old and have about spent my earthly work. I enlisted as a soldier for the Lord in 1859, joined the Zion Baptist church there, and have tried to be a true soldier for him until I have orders to move into another and better world, where all strife will end; Where there will be no more wars, where there will be no more deaths, and there will be no more heart aches but all will be peace and joy when the bugle calls on that day. I hope to meet my friends, comrades and all those who fell in that struggle between the states and all friends who have gone on before me. I want to hear those welcome words, "Thou hast been faithful, enter now into the joy of the Lord."

I forgot to tell you about some experiences we had at London, Tenn. We were gathering up supplies for the army. We had a pontoon bridge across Tennessee river. Aguard was stationed on each bank and one in the middle. I was stationed in the middle of the river. We had orders not to allow more than three wagons on the bridge at a time. One team stalled at the bank. The guard kept letting teams on the bridge until we had the bridge as full as it would hold wagons and teams. I was worse scared there than any time or in any experience I had in the war. A pontoon bridge is made this way: A two inch rope stretched across the river and

securely fastened to each bank. Then they have boxes or boats tied to the rope. These boxes are water tight, and sills are laid on them and on the sills the bridge floor is laid. A pontoon bridge can be made very quickly. Then the army can pass over on the bridge. If too much weight is put on it the boxes or boats will sink and the bridge give way. Or if the large rope breaks it will turn the bridge loose and it will wreck.

The bridge was loaded until the boxes were almost ready to fill with water. The big rope was stretched as tight as it could be. I looked for it to break any minute, I could not make the guard hear me and he filled the bridge. Then we all got scared. They got the stalled wagon out of the way and unloaded the bridge. I lived an age while that team was stalled. After that jam we only let three wagons on the bridge at a time. If the bridge had not stood the strain I have no doubt but what I would have perished in the waters of Tennessee river at London, Tenn.

While we were at London we came near causing a big excitement. Co. I stationed near us claimed to be good looking men. They got to bragging about it. One night they were taking things in down below us, in a social way, with the fair sex. Goodson Flemming and about ten or fifteen of us armed ourselves with rocks and iron weights. We went down where the rumpus was going on. At the command of Goodson, we pulled loose and you never heard such a noise as those rock and iron weights made. Company I made a hasty retreat. When an alarm was given we ran to our beds and when armed soldiers arrived no one could be found who knew anything about it. Company I knew they had been bombarded, but by whom? We all pretended to be asleep and had not heard or seen anything unusual. The matter closed and no one knew but us who had done it.

while in the Virginia campaign I was sent to Stotewall Jackson's headquarters with a message from our army. Jack O'Neal was sent with me. We delivered the message. It took us all night to go and come. The next morning we tried to get breakfast at many houses. It took lack we would get breakfast at the next house, which looked prosperous. I asked the old man if we could have breakfast and he said, "No." I said, "I am going to eat," and went to the kitchen, and took two ponies of bread and some cooked beef and put it in my haversack. A Negro cook said, "Seems lack of massa stands a pore back here dis mornin'" We got the key to the spring house and found milk, cider and butter, and after eating heartily we went back.

At the battle of Piedmont, I saw Huse O'Neal's hat shot off his head and his clothing punctured in many places. He was on the skirmish line and fell between the fire of both armies. How he could escape I cannot explain unless he bore a "charmed life."

John Morgan was flag bearer and there was no braver man than he was. I saw his flag shot down but he always put it back up. It did not matter how thick the bullets were coming. They shot his flag pole to pieces but he raised the flag on the bayonet of his gun. His flag had to stay up.